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# Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 27 | Min 18 | Humidity 73% Fog or Mist would occur in early morning Sensex 58,807 | Nifty 17,516 | Gold 49,040 | Silver 61,600 | Dollar 75.52 | Euro 85.26 | GBP 99.75

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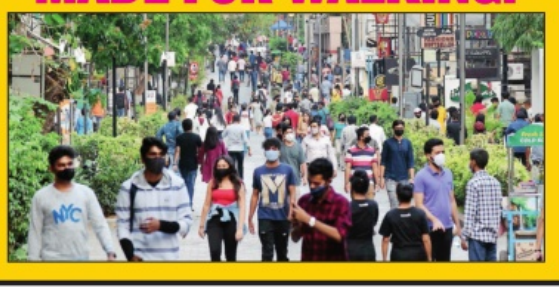
**CLUSTER CONCERN**

As covid clusters spike, state issues new guidelines for hostels

CITY / PAGE 5

**THESE STREETS WERE MADE FOR WALKING!**



CITY / PAGE 4

**NO TIME FOR NICETIES**

Traffic jams due to white-topping work leave commuters fuming on NICE Road

## Why hammer iron rods into tree trunks to build our homes, ask residents of RR Nagar

# TREE SPIRIT

## Innovative device proves it is a 'tree' country after all

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How often have you come across trees with irons rods sticking out of their trunks? Quite a common sight in the city for the observant.

Iron rods are struck right into the heart of great trees, hammered in probably during building construction, for readying rods for pillaring work, we are told.

Now, the residents of Rajarajeshwari Nagar have come up with a noble initiative — to free the trees that have been violated in this manner, by removing the iron rods from their trunks.

The residents themselves have developed a 'puller' to remove the iron rods. Initially, they used a jig to remove the rods from the trees, but during most instances, due to the thickness of the rods stuck in tree trunks, they could only remove the iron half-way. However, then the group of residents worked on a new tool to pull the rods out of the trunks.

A team of 15 individuals, including engineers, doctors and other professionals, banded together and worked out a plan to build the new puller.

Initially the group had made 5 to 6 pullers, but their attempt was futile as it did not help in removing the bigger iron rods hammered into certain trees. Then, they designed the new puller, which can now extract a rod of 10-15 inches length or more out of a tree trunk.

The puller tool made by the team has two iron rods with a screw rod in the middle that is used to pull the iron rod hammered into a tree by rotating the screw rod by the handle.

The residents have removed over 500 such iron rods from trees in their neighbourhoods till date. They are now planning to do it throughout the city.

"This is a wonderful initiative by the citizens. Most of the trees are choked either by cement, nails inserted into them or by the rods hammered into their trunks. In some instances, the trees can die too. With the residents' innovative tool, they are able to pull out the iron rods which have been inside some trees for years," said Vijay Nishanth, environmentalist, who's also fondly called the Tree Doctor.

> **"The team has freed over 1,000 trees in RR Nagar alone by removing 500 rods, and continue to do it..."**
> –Dr Kalpana Vishwanath

Meanwhile, the residents pointed out, initially, they began by removing the tree guards, by using cutting players, rods and such tools.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

# TRADE SECRET

## How commercial tax department is clamping down on e-way bill fraud

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Crores of rupees are imposed as fines on tax-evading businessmen and dealers who hoodwink the commercial tax authorities and move goods and consignments from one place to another.

The traders in question generate e-way bills faking the pick-up (loading) and drop (unloading) points to avail reduced commercial tax.

The commercial tax department (CTD) of Karnataka is now collecting hefty fines from such defaulters, sometimes almost equal to the value of the goods transported, an official told BM.

The CTD's enforcement and vigilance wing officials are now tracking movement of goods vehicles and the consignments from one point to another throughout the country with the help of RFIDs (Radio Frequency Identification) and FastTags integrated into the e-way billing system.

Earlier, the CTD's enforcement wing used to pursue vehicles of violators based on credible information from informers, and would follow the vehicles, check requisite documents, and penalise for violations.

A senior CTD official said businessmen and dealers throughout the country, in order to avoid GST and other commercial taxes, are resorting to tactics the department is now monitoring by tracking e-way bill information: "Violators raise and generate e-way bills from one point to another, while they actually lift the material

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

## 3 THINGS TO DO

### 01 Head to a very merry bazaar

Christmas is a tiny countdown away. Head to Raintree Christmas Bazaar to fulfill all your festive shopping needs. The two-day event is just the fun place you're looking for to spend quality time with family and friends. The bazaar promises to have something for everyone, and has all age groups covered. It will feature an outdoor pop-up on a beautifully manicured lawn too. The pop-up will be displaying elegant decor for Christmas, clothes, jewellery, home decor, footwear, organic and gourmet foods items and much more. Psst, if you're a fan of quiches, tarts, pastries and exotic desserts, you don't want to miss this. **Where: Raintree, No. 4, Sankey Road, High Grounds; When: December 10 and 11, 10.30 am to 6.30 pm; Phone: 9980225469**

### 02 Go on a festive spree

Christmas calls for a shopping spree in many households. If you're one such home, try this artisanal market – Let's Make Merry (Eat - Shop - Create - Laugh). The market will present over 35 different artisanal, organic and fascinating brands, including clothes, which are made sustainably, handcrafted bags, handmade gift items, eclectic home decor, paper goodies, beauty products, organic food produce, beautifully designed jewellery, both traditional, eclectic and contemporary, yummy bakes, breads and jams, healthy eats and diet plans and even vegan takes on tasty favourites. Sounds yum? Good food is often followed by good cheer; Momic Amruta, will ensure that all is jolly at the market. The artist will be performing stand-up comedy on both days for the two-day event.
**Where: Studio Orenda (lakeview farm lawns)**
**When: Dec 11 and 12, 11 am–6 pm**
**Entry: FREE; Register: On spot**

### 03 Play for thought

You must watch Forum Three's Chalo, Raja Se Miley, a whacky comedy and satire on greed, and lust for power, politics, and redemption. This play tells the story of a god, a king and a bramhin looking for alms. Backed by an entourage of colourful characters, this is a theatre experience that is sure to leave you craving for more. Although the play was written in the '90's by Manoj Mitra, the story is relatable and relevant even in today's socio-political climate. Touching upon themes of social inequality and abuse of power, it throws light on the famous saying "power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely". The play explores a wide range of emotions. From tragedy to romance to comedy to elements of pathos and redemption, this show is packed with it all. **When: December 10**
**Where: Ranga Shankara**

# Cluster management

## As covid clusters spike, state government issues new guidelines for hostels

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A BBMP health worker at a covid testing centre in Bengaluru

Due to an increase in covid clusters the state government has decided to come out with specific guidelines for stricter implementation of SOPs at hostels. After a detailed discussion with the cabinet Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said that the guidelines will focus on hostels and their management. These guidelines include sanitising, ensuring that people gather food in safe numbers, restricting visitors, ensuring full vaccination and setting up a separate isolation room.

"We have already given similar guidelines for cluster management and have said that if there are more than three positive cases in a place it will be declared as a cluster, and such measures will continue," he said. Cabinet ministers have urged Bommai to conduct special vaccination drives like vaccine melas which were held last year. So far, as many as 19 clusters have emerged at educational institutions and hostels in Bengaluru, Dharwad, Mysuru, Hassan and Mangaluru. Bommai said that the strict vigilance and measures like mandatory vaccination and RT-PCR tests for entering the state in border areas, specifically for students from Kerala will continue.

### Guidelines for the New Year

A section of technical experts have suggested imposing a night curfew between Christmas and New Year. Regarding these suggestions, Bommai said that the situation is currently under control and he doesn't want to make any hasty decisions. He will take stock of the situation next week and take a call.

### Sudhakar skips cabinet meeting

During the all important cabinet meeting to discuss covid guidelines, Dr K Sudhakar, Minister for Health and Family Welfare, was absent. As per rumours there are differences amongst the ministers. During the previous covid waves, S Suresh Kumar, Education Minister at that time, was given the responsibility of being the covid spokesperson. The health minister at that time, B Sriramulu, and Sudhakar, who was the medical education minister then, refused to address the media.

However, on Thursday, Bommai said that all is well and Sudhakar did not attend due to prior engagements. "We are in touch on a daily basis," he clarified.

**So far, as many as 19 clusters have emerged at educational institutions and hostels in Bengaluru, Dharwad, Mysuru, Hassan and Mangaluru**

# Three of omicron positive doc's contacts called back to hospital

## Sources say, they will be discharged after genomic sequencing results arrive

The Karnataka government, taking no chance with the threat of the spread of Omicron, has asked three contacts of a 46-year-old doctor - who was amongst the first to test positive for the new strain - to return to the designated hospital until their genomic sequencing results arrive, sources said. The three contacts - all doctors - went home after testing negative in RT-PCR tests twice. Comprising an anaesthetist, a cardiothoracic surgeon and a vascular surgeon, they were discharged on Tuesday following a negative report in RT-PCR tests but called back.

After coming back to the hospital, they left for their homes the next day stating that they can't stay in the covid ward after testing negative twice. They also maintained that their family members have tested positive and they need to take care of them, sources said.

However, the three were called back and kept in a different ward of the hospital. The hospital authorities maintained that the contacts of the Omicron patient were discharged but have not yet left the hospital.

Clear guidelines in connection with discharging of Omicron patients and their contacts, are yet to come and there is confusion, say hospital authorities.

There is a difference of opinion among experts and health authorities over discharge protocols for Omicron suspects. Some experts say if a patient is symptom free, has completed a quarantine period of 14 days, and tested negative two times in RT-PCR tests, they should be discharged. However, authorities maintain that the patients can't be sent until their genomic sequencing results are known. The genomic sequencing reports were supposed to come on Wednesday, but were delayed as they had to re-sequenced. A call will be taken soon on the three's discharge, sources said. – IANS

### In K'taka 24 nursing students test covid positive

A total of 24 nursing students have tested positive for covid in Bhadravathi town of Karnataka's Shivamogga district on Thursday, officials said. District Commissioner KB Shivakumar has stated that the Nirmala Nursing College where the cases are being found has been sealed. The nursing college students had been to Shivamogga city to give their examinations. After coming back, they developed symptoms of mild fever. When they were tested, the infection was found. Since the college is attached to the nursing home, it has also been sealed and OPD services have been shut down. The authorities are subjecting all the staff members and students to RT-PCR tests and the number of infected persons are likely to increase by Friday. The district administration had taken precautions to contain the infectious disease to the premises of the nursing college. Meanwhile, the state government is initiating extra caution and stepped up monitoring of all nursing and medical colleges across the state, especially in Davanagere, Tumakuru, and Dharwad districts where covid cases have seen a large rise. – IANS

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# NICE not so nice

## Motorists say toll for NICE Ring Road must be decreased, road is bumpy and white-topping works are causing traffic jams

The view from a commuter's car; the traffic congestion is evident

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Those commuting via NICE Ring Road are frustrated due to the long-lasting traffic jams that are resulting from the ongoing white-topping works on the road.

Motorists who used the road to reach their destinations quicker are now getting stuck in traffic on a two-kilometre-long stretch. They said that the toll price should be brought down as the road is not serving its purpose anymore.

Purushotham, a resident of JP Nagar, used the road on Thursday morning. He was traveling back home from Tumakuru and was on his way, driving towards Bannerghatta, when he got stuck on NICE Ring Road due to the slow-moving traffic.

"A small sign board put up at the entrance of the road alerted the users that road work is going on on the road. But we didn't think that it would have affected the traffic flow this badly. I wanted to reach my destination fast and used the road, paying Rs 145 as toll. But half of the stretch is under work and I was stuck due to slow movement of vehicles," Purushotham said.

"One side of the road is under work and the other side has been converted into a two-way. Most were frustrated and kept honking to clear the road. The road is very bumpy too and they have done patch works everywhere to fill the potholes which makes it even more difficult to drive on the road," he said.

Ritesh, a techie from Electronic City, said that it is not fair for motorists to pay such a huge toll for such bad service and the authorities must consider lowering the toll price until the roads are fixed properly.

> **One side of the road is under work and the other side has been converted into a two-way. Most were frustrated and kept honking to clear the road. The road is very bumpy too**
>
> –Purushotham, resident of JP Nagar

"Although the it was made to enable us to drive fast, we can't speed up here as the road is uneven. The road work has added to our problems. On Mysore Road towards Kanakapura, a jam lasted for almost 2 kilometres. Even towards Magadi Road from Mysore Road, motorists suffer. Entering the city took a lot more time than usual. I could have taken alternate roads if I knew the traffic would have been this bad. Why should we pay so much when we are not getting good facilities?," he asked.

An official working on NICE Ring Road told Bangalore Mirror that they have taken up the road work only to provide better roads and good service. "We have started concretising to give them the best roads with no potholes. Yes the users are faced with a little inconvenience due to the diversion for the one-kilometre stretch but we have deployed personnel to clear the jams and ensure free flow of traffic. The traffic police along with retired army men are also managing the traffic on this road. We are trying to find another solution for the problem," he said.

# Traders fake e-way bills to evade commercial tax

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

consignment from different venues, sometimes with no consignor and transport them to non-existent consignees. We are tracking movement of such goods vehicles using the e-way bill information generated and are imposing hefty fines on these violators."

The enforcement wing of the CTD, Vijayapura, recently detained a truck loaded with 25,025 kg of arecanut with an e-way bill stating that it is coming from Coimbatore, heading towards Delhi. Upon tracking, the CTD officials learnt from the RFIDs and FastTag crossings, that the vehicle had originated from Mangaluru and upon further verification, the authorities confirmed that both the consignor and the consignee were non-existent for the said consignment.

> **The enforcement wing of Belagavi detained a goods vehicle carrying stainless steel scrap from Coimbatore to Palghar. CTD officials who verified the e-way bills, learnt about clandestine movement to some non-existent consignee**

Proceedings were initiated under section 130 of the CGST Act, after which an auction was carried out. The tax authorities levied a penalty of about Rs 1 crore and the same was collected from the violator.

"The penalty is levied based on violations, taking into consideration the weight and the worth of the consignment. In this case, 1 kg of arecanut would cost somewhere between Rs 370 to 400," a commercial tax officer said.

Similarly, a goods vehicle ferrying electronic goods worth Rs 58.3 lakh was detained with defective documents and a penalty of nearly Rs 14 lakh was levied and collected from the violator.

The enforcement wing of Hubbali had detained the truck that was transporting electronic goods worth Rs 58,29,018, from Bengaluru heading towards Pune. The officials while going through the documents found them faulty after which proceedings were initiated and along with the tax and the penalty, nearly Rs 4 lakh was collected by the tax authorities.

In another instance, the enforcement wing of Belagavi, detained a goods vehicle carrying stainless steel scrap from Coimbatore to Palghar. The CTD officials who verified the e-way bills, learnt about the clandestine movement to some non-existent consignee.

Proceedings were initiated under section 130 of the CGST Act and tax along with penalty of Rs 63.8 lakh, which was almost equal, to the value of the goods were imposed on the violator.

Likewise, CTD Bengaluru's vigilance team recently intercepted a truck at the Nelamangala toll that was carrying an excess quantity of readymade garments and other goods not matching with the e-way bill information. A tax and penalty of Rs 11.64 lakh were imposed on the businessmen that was collected later, the officials stated.

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### No words
**JC Road**

This junction on AM Road, off JC Road, has turned into a yellow spot. Folks are seen urinating at the spot and even dump garbage here. Some have been parking their trucks at the spot too. "The place stinks so much, I have no words to express what we're going through...," a resident wrote to BM.

### Save the plants
**Residency Road**

Several potted plants on this road are dying due to neglect. "Wild grass is growing in the pots that line the road. These plants were supposed to beautify Bengaluru but now they present a sordid and dismal picture of the city," a reader wrote to BM.

### Deep trouble
**KR Market**

This pothole at Godown Street is deep and dangerous. Will BBMP fix it?

# These streets were made for walking!

## Pedestrians, there is some good news: Plans afoot to give you more space

BACK ON OUR FEET: On vehicle-free days, Church Street is a busy place indeed

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Bengaluru may soon get more 'pedestrianised' streets. The good response to Church Street pedestrianisation, has prompted officials to make plans to increase the number of pedestrianised streets where vehicles can be kept at bay and the walkers can take over the street for a day.

V Manjula, Commissioner, Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) said, "If groups, resident welfare associations, and citizens can demand pedestrianised streets, we can work with them to make it happen. There needs to be appetite and momentum from citizens for pedestrianised streets in neighbourhoods. We are convinced that we need to do this for a liveable city." She said the Church Street Impact Assessment had an impact on DULT draft Transport Oriented Development (TOD) Policy that is currently with the government for approval.

Nearly a year after the Church Street First Initiative kicked off in the CBD area, key stakeholders gathered virtually to talk about the process, experiences, and learnings from the first pedestrianisation project in the city with the hope of inspiring more streets that belong to people. Church Street First was a pedestrianisation initiative, led by DULT in association with IISc, Bengaluru, Catapult UK, and Urban Morph Bengaluru under the Clean Air Street Initiative. The street was closed off for vehicular traffic every Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to midnight between November 2020 and April 2021.

### In Koramangala and Jayanagar

Basavaraj Kabade, (Superintending Engineer, BBMP) suggested, "In each constituency like Jayanagar or Koramangala we must identify streets with lot of commercial activities and people coming in and going out. Such streets should be converted into pedestrianised roads. There must also be Metro accessibility, overall connectivity near such streets."

> **During pedestrianisation we could see how street vendors also found such spaces productive from their point of view of being able to do business** –Prof Ashish Verma, IISc

Sathyanarayanan Sankaran (Bengaluru Bicycle Mayor and Founder, Urban Morph) said there has been a boost to economic activities in the area where the project was implemented. He said, "We had heard that in London economic activity grew by 40 per cent after pedestrianisation but that's hard for most people to believe, but we now we have an example from an Indian city. When we interacted with businesses prior to pedestrianisation, there were some who were hesitant about change, but the pilot proved pedestrianisation can help businesses discover new customers and new opportunities," he said.

### Productive for vendors

Prof Ashish Verma from IISc said that equity is an important goal for the improvement of quality of life through pedestrianisation. "During pedestrianisation, street vendors also found the space productive in terms of business," he said. Yatish VT, founder, Broke Artists collective, gave the artists' perspective. "When we started, we found a handful of artists. Today there are over 190 looking for a space like Church Street."

# 38,479 people have got no ticket to ride

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With an increase in the number of train services, there has been a subsequent increase in ticketless travelers. For example, in September Rs 1.09 crore was collected as fine from ticketless travelers and the fine amount rose to Rs 2.18 crore in November.

Overall in November, the Bengaluru division of South Western Railway booked 38,479 cases of ticketless traveling and collected a fine of Rs 2,18,73,555. This is the first time in the current financial year that the division has collected over Rs 2 crore as fine from ticketless travelers in a month. In comparison, the division had collected Rs 44,93,765 as fine for ticketless traveling in November 2020. As per the railway act, if any passenger is found traveling without a proper ticket, a penalty of Rs 250 or equivalent to fare (ordinary single fare for the distance traveled or from the station the train started and the excess charges) or whichever is more will be imposed.

Fine of Rs 1.31 crore was collected in April, May-Rs 38.2 lakh, June-52.7 lakh, July-Rs 96.1 lakh, August-Rs 1.1 crore, September-Rs 1.09 crore and October Rs 1.75 crore. The division also collected Rs 9,200 for 35 littering cases and Rs 57,750 for 214 cases of not wearing masks.

### Bharat Gaurav trains

Now, professionals of the tourism sector can run theme-based trains. Registered service providers will be offered rakes under the "Right to Use" model by Indian Railways for operations of Bharat Gaurav Trains. Option to procure coaches from production units through NRC (Non-Railway Customer) plan is also available. The chosen operators will have the flexibility to decide the business model including themes, routes, itinerary, tariff and other attributes connected with this model. Under the model, one can own a rake for a minimum of two years.

# Plan to sell baby croc foiled

The Chennammanakere Achukattu police on Thursday cracked a wildlife poaching racket and arrested two persons who were trying to sell a crocodile hatchling to their customer. Based on a tip off, a team led by Inspector PR Janardhan, rushed to the spot near Eshwari theater and caught Abdul Khalid (32) from Jayanagar and his associate Gangadhar BS (32) from Kanakapura. The police recovered a plastic can containing the live hatchling.

The accused told the police they had poached the baby reptile from the banks of river Cauvery and brought it to the city after clinching a deal with the client who reportedly wanted to buy the reptile to keep it as a pet. The duo have been booked under various sections of the Wildlife Act and efforts are on to track down the client. —BMB

The hatchling was in a plastic can

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## personal

### LOST & FOUND

**I,** Bharath G S/o Late M Gopal, residing at No. 69, 5th Cross, Balaji Layout, Near Channammanakere Acchukattu, Bangalore-560085, have lost original Documents of property bearing No. 227, Katha No. 53/3, 53/4, 53/7, 53/8, 53/1, 53/5, 53/2, 53/6 situated at Kumbalagodu Village Panchayath, Kumbalagodu Village, Kengeri Hobli, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet while in transit near Hanumanthanagar, Bangalore. Finders Please contact: 8296663809

### CHANGE OF NAME

**I,** Khushboo Thomas W/o Rahil Kevin Sannoo R/o D-2204 ,Nikoo Homes-2 , Bhartiya City Thanisandra Bangalore-560064 have changed my name to Khushboo Sannoo.

**I** Rajakumar Jagaralamudi R/O # 260 Shivani Enclave Uttarahalli Main Road Opp K E B Counter Chikkalasandra B-61 have changed my name as Rajkumar Jagaralamudi Mohankumar vide affidavit dt 8/12/21 before notary N NAGAPPA B'lore.


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GALLERIA

Cathedral High School
Richmond Road, Bengaluru – 560025
(MANAGED BY CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA – KARNATAKA CENTRAL DIOCESE)

L.K.G. ADMISSION NOTICE 2022-2023

L.K.G. application forms for the Academic Year 2022-2023 will be available **online** at the School website:
**www.cathedralhighschool.in** and in the School Office from **10th December 2021**.
The submission of applications will close on **20th December 2021** at **5.00 p.m.**

**Minimum age:** 3 years 10 months } as on
**Maximum age:** 4 years 10 months } 1st June 2022

*PRINCIPAL*

ROUNAQH



GALLERIA

Bishop Cotton Girls' School
St. Mark's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001
(MANAGED BY CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA–KARNATAKA CENTRAL DIOCESE)

L.K.G. ADMISSION NOTICE 2022-2023

L.K.G. application forms for the Academic Year 2022-2023 will be available **online** at the School website:
**www.bishopcottongirls.com**
from **10th December 2021**.
Applications must be submitted **online**. The submission of applications will close on **20th December 2021** at **5.00 p.m.**

**Minimum age:** 3 years 10 months } as on
**Maximum age:** 4 years 10 months } 1st June 2022

*PRINCIPAL*

ROUNAQH



Bishop Cotton Boys' School
Residency Road, Bengaluru - 560 025
(MANAGED BY CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA–KARNATAKA CENTRAL DIOCESE)

L.K.G. ADMISSION NOTICE 2022-2023

L.K.G. application forms for the academic year 2022-2023 will be available **online** at the school website:
**www.cottonboys.com**
from **10th December 2021**.
Applications must be submitted **online**. The submission of applications will close on **20th December 2021** at **5.00 p.m.**

**Minimum age:** 3 years 10 months } as on
**Maximum age:** 4 years 10 months } 1st June 2022

*PRINCIPAL*

ROUNAQH

I, Meher Maini W/o Raunak Bindra R/o No.521, 8th cross 7th Block, Jayanagar Bengaluru 560070 have changed my name to MEHER MAINI BINDRA affidavit Dt.09/12/2021 Notary Harisha.G Bengaluru.

I Samyuktha C.A D/o Bhairavan A / Bhairavan R/o No.4, 3rd Floor, G No. 7th Street, Jogupalya, Halasuru, Bangalore 560008 Have Changed My Name To Samyuktha

I Siddharth C.A S/o Bhairavan A / Bhairavan R/o No.4, 3rd Floor, G No. 7th Street, Jogupalya, Halasuru, Bangalore 560008 Have Changed My Name To Siddharth

I, R.Bindu/Bindu W/o Vishwanath H A R/o No-106/2B, Sadaramangala Main Road , Kallappa Garden , near Hoodi railway gate, Mahadevapura Post B'lore-560048 have changed my name to Bindu Vishwanath Vide affidavit dated 08/12/2021 before notary Rajanna S M Bangalore

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# Moon's Blessing for 1000 Guineas

Ikram Khan
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The Sulaiman Attaollahi schooled Moon's Blessing appeals most in the classy field of 10 runners in the fray for the first classic of the winter racing season, the Bangalore 1000 Guineas to be run over a mile. The main threat to Moon's Blessing will emanate from the Arjun Mangalorkar-trained Allamanda and the Mumbai challenger Medora from the stables of champion trainer Pesi Shroff. The former holds a razor-edge and is set to run Moon's Blessing close. A good type of youngster, Siege Perilous from trainer Prasanna Kumar's yard, competing in the Frankel Plate looks outstanding and is recommended as the day's best betting proposition.

**First race starts at 2:00 p.m.**

**1. Krishna Plate (Div-III) 1200M:** Prime Star 1, Rightly Noble 2, Florencia 3.

**2. Frankel Plate 1400M:** Siege Perilous 1, Only You 2, Pink Jasmine 2.

**3. Krishna Plate (Div-II) 1200M:** Embosom 1, Max Muller 2, Chisox 3

**4. Seattle Slew Plate 1200M:** Muirfield 1, Evaldo 2, Analect 3.

**5. Chief Minister's Trophy 2000M:** Point To Prove 1, Pissarro 1, Automatic 2.

**6. Bangalore 1000 Guineas 1600M:** Moon's Blessing 1, Allamanda 2, Medora 3.

**7. Chitradurga Plate 1400M:** The Sovereign ORB 1, First Impression 2, Peluche 3.

**8. Krishna Plate (Div-I) 1200M:** Sir Jersey 1, Impeccable 2, Galactical 3.

**Day's Best: Siege Perilous**

Jackpot: 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. First Treble: 3, 4 & 5. Second Treble: 6, 7 & 8.

# Prison attack: Undertrial slashed with shaving blade

A 41-year-old undertrail was attacked by another jail inmate at the Parappana Agrahara Central Prison on Monday. The jail officials suspect a past rivalry between the two led to the attack. Victim Aslam Pasha had to be rushed to the Victoria Hospital for injuries to his forehead which required sutures. He was attacked with a shaving blade by another undertrial Mohammed Jikriya.

According to prison sources, the incident happened around 1.50 pm on Monday near the staircase of the 7th barrack in Tower-1 of the Central Prison. Pasha who has been in judicial custody over the past eight to 10 days was arrested for having received stolen property that was recovered from him.

Initially, the prison staff suspected Pasha had been attacked as he gave information about Jikriya to the cops, but upon questioning, they found the two had a trivial argument over which Jikriya was nursing a grudge.

After the attack,Pasha was taken to Victoria Hospital. Neither his advocate nor his family members were allowed to meet him and soon after he was sutured up, he was rushed to the jail hospital. Based on a complaint from the Chief Jail Superintendent P Ranganatha, the Parappana Agrahara police have taken up a case of assault inside the Central Prison against Jikriya. Though sharp edged items are not allowed, a few prisoners manage to get access to shaving blades from the canteen, a police officer said.

—Bellie Thomas

# Light showers likely in B'luru: IMD

After a brief gap, Bengaluru experienced rain again on Thursday. Now, the meteorology department has predicted isolated, very light to light rain likely in the city for the next two days. Overall, in Karnataka, scattered to fairly widespread, very light to moderate rain has been predicted likely over south-interior and Malnad regions. Isolated, very light to light rain may prevail over coastal Karnataka and north-interior regions, the department has predicted.

## South-interior Karnataka

Fairly widespread, very light to light rain is likely over Mysuru, Mandya and Tumakuru districts and isolated to scattered, very light to light rain is likely to shower in the remaining districts of the region.

## North-interior Karnataka

Isolated to scattered, very light to light rain is likely over Raichur, Koppala, Haveri, Yadgir and Kalaburagi districts. Dry weather is very likely to prevail over the remaining districts of the region.

## Malnad

Scattered to fairly widespread, very light to light rain is likely over Chikkamagaluru, Kodagu and Hassan districts and isolated, very light to light rain is likely over Shivamogga district.

— BMB

**International flights not till Jan 31**
India will keep scheduled international passenger flights suspended till January 31 next year, aviation regulator DGCA said on Thursday

BangaloreMirror | 8
Friday, December 10, 2021
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# Chopper crash: 3 of 13 identified

## Mortal remains of CDS Bipin Rawat, wife Madhulika and Brig LS Lidder identified; process is going on for others

**#NEW DELHI**

Out of the 13 people killed in the IAF helicopter crash near Coonoor, the mortal remains of only Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat, his wife Madhulika Rawat and Brig LS Lidder could be identified, officials said on Thursday.

They said the mortal remains of only those identified will be released to the next of kin of those killed in the tragic helicopter crash on Wednesday.

"Process for positive identification of remaining mortal remains is continuing. Mortal remains will be kept at the mortuary of Army Base Hospital till completion of positive identification formalities," said an official. They said appropriate funerals with military tradition of all deceased are being planned and coordinated in close consultation with their family members.

Besides Gen Rawat, his wife and Brig Lidder, 10 armed forces personnel were killed in the Mi-17V5 helicopter crash which is one of the biggest air accidents in India in decades involving senior military officers.

The other personnel killed in the accident are Lt Col Harjinder Singh, Wing Commander PS Chauhan, Squadron Leader K Singh, JWO Das, JWO Pradeep A, Havildar Satpal, Naik Gursewak Singh, Naik Jitender Kumar, Lance Naik Vivek Kumar and Lance Naik Sai Teja.

Officials said the bodies were charred because of which identification has become difficult. They said family members of the deceased are being brought to Delhi to help the authorities in identifying the bodies.

In a statement in Parliament, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said a tri-services enquiry into the incident has been ordered by the Indian Air Force and it will be headed by Air Marshal Manvendra Singh, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Training Command. Singh said Gen Rawat was on a scheduled visit to Defence Services Staff College, Wellington to interact with the student officers.

Daughters of late Chief of Defense Staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat pay tribute during a wreath laying ceremony at Palam Airport in New Delhi; Below: Police outside Command Hospital ahead of the arrival of crash survivor of a chopper crash Group Captain Varun Singh, in Bengaluru

KAUSHIK JN

### Lone survivor moved to Bengaluru

Group Captain Varun Singh, the lone survivor of the chopper crash near Coonoor, was on Thursday shifted to a military hospital in Bengaluru from Wellington in Tamil Nadu, officials said.

His condition is still critical, they said. The Group Captain was admitted to a hospital in Wellington with severe burn injuries on Wednesday following the crash. On Thursday morning, he was initially moved to Sulur in an ambulance by road and then flown to Bengaluru for better treatment. Group Captain Singh was on board the chopper as the liaison officer for the visit of Gen Rawat.

– PTI

# Year-long protest comes to an end

## Farm leaders to hold review meet on Jan 15

Farmers pack their belongings , after a decision to withdraw protest, at Singhu border in New Delhi on Thursday

**#Singhu Border (New Delhi)**

Farmers, who have been protesting against the three farm laws on different borders of Delhi since November 26 last year, announced on Wednesday that they are suspending their year-long agitation and would vacate the protest sites on December 11.

The announcement came after the protesting farmers received a letter from the Central government, with promises of forming a committee on Minimum Support Price (MSP) and withdrawing cases against them immediately.

"As far as the matter of compensation is concerned, UP and Haryana have given in-principle consent," it read.

While addressing a press conference, farmer leader Gurnam Singh Charuni said, "We have decided to suspend our agitation. We will hold a review meeting on Jan 15. If government does not fulfill its promises, we could resume our agitation." "Protesting farmers will vacate the protest sites on December 11," another farmers' leader Darshan Pal Singh said.

On November 19, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the Centre will bring necessary bills in the Winter Session of Parliament beginning later this month to repeal the farm laws.

Both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha passed the Farm Laws Repeal Bill on the first day of the winter session on November 29. President Ram Nath Kovind has also given his assent to the Bill that completes the process of repealing the three farm laws.

The SKM called off a planned tractor march to Parliament on November 29 and said that it would wait until December 4 for the Union government to formally respond to its demands, which it had stated in an open letter to the Prime Minister.

– ANI

### SKM to remain apolitical: Darshal Pal

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha will gear up to present the farmer unions' umbrella body as a "national level morcha" and farmer leaders who want to join politics should leave the union, SKM core committee member Darshan Pal said on Thursday. He also reiterated that the farmers' body should remain "apolitical".

Pal's comments came after SKM's decision to suspend the year-long agitation by farmers against the Centre's three farm laws.

The union has called for a meeting on January 15 next year to see if its demands have been met by the government. "The January 15 meeting will also discuss how to present the SKM as a national level morcha. Farmer leaders who want to join politics should leave the SKM. The SKM will remain apolitical," Pal said.

# It's time iron rods came out of the woodwork

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Often, the guards that are used to protect the trees during the sapling stage are not removed. Fifteen years or so later, when the tree has grown, it's already choked inside the metal guards. We saw many trees in this condition and started removing the guards. Once the guards were removed, we started to notice huge rods piercing the tree trunks. We decided to remove the iron rods then," said Harish Kumar, general secretary of Swaneeha Vikasa Trust, running the campaign Neta Gida Rakshane, and a resident of RR Nagar.

The residents pooled in money to make the pullers and together they made around five pullers — each puller costing them between Rs 30,000-50,000.

Dr Kalpana Vishwanath, who's part of the group, pointed out that so far, in the last four months, the team has liberated 1,000 plus trees in RR Nagar alone by removing 500 rods, and they continue to do it every day.

"We spend at least an hour a day removing the rods. We need to protect our trees. They provide us shade and oxygen. We are in the garden city and hence should save the trees here."

Meanwhile, Nishanth pointed out that the BBMP should take action against construction companies who use trees and insert rods into them. "The trees get injured easily. Strict action should be taken against this. These activities cause danger to the trees and should be avoided," he said.

The residents, after removing the iron rods, are applying medication to the tree trunks so that the trees recover sooner.

**HEALTH TIP:** The blue light emitted by the screen can hamper your sleep especially when the device is used close to bedtime

Berries help to stimulate the production of the thyroid hormones and keep them functioning smoothly


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## BEST OF
DR MAHINDER WATSA

**The finest responses of Dr Watsa are being republished in this column as a tribute to him.**

**1 I'm 23 years old and I had a girlfriend at 20. The relationship ended after two years. I have not had sex with anyone in my life, not even with my girlfriend. However, lately when I see a plus-size woman, I get so excited. I don't know why but it feels like a big storm is brewing in my mind. I watch porn and then I start to masturbate. I feel this will only cause me trouble. What should I do? Please give me helpful suggestions.**
There are plenty of things you can do. You are in this state because of overthinking, and nothing else. I suggest you go out and meet your male and female friends and soon enough the one you like will walk into your life.

**2 My girlfriend is 19-years-old and I'm 20. We had sex a month ago and she got pregnant. She used a tablet called 'PAN' to wash out her uterus but she is still bleeding, even though she had the tablet six to seven days ago. Now what should we do? Please guide us.**
Stop being foolish. She should visit a gynaecologist who can advise the line of treatment, immediately.

**3 I am an 18-year-old-man. I used to watch porn and masturbate every two days. But eventually I got bored of it and now barely watch it and masturbate once every five or six days. However, there are still times when I watch porn and masturbate every day for four or five days. Is this normal?**
This system is suitable for you for now but you should understand that a true relationship is a lot more valuable than watching porn and masturbating.

**MEET THE SEXPERTS**
**Use this QR code to send your questions to us**

# Make a safe change

## Here are five parameters to consider while assessing if it's time to switch to a different bank now

Shambhavi Mehrotra
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

**MONEY MATTERS**

A higher rate of interest on the savings account is simply not reason enough to move on from your existing bank. If you are thinking of changing your bank, assess the reasons why you are doing so. Once you are sure that you need to move on, remember that switching to a new bank requires a good deal of paperwork. However, go ahead if you really feel that the change will be to your advantage. These 5 parameters will help you decide whether it is time to change banks.

### Quality of service
If your bank's service standards are not up to the mark, shift to one that matches your expectations. However, improved customer orientation comes with a price tag. PSU banks require a low minimum balance of Rs 2,000 to 3,000, while private banks insist on figures that are four to five times bigger. Move only if you are ready to pay that cost.

> **Is your bank providing the services you need? Or rather those that you don't. If your bank's product portfolio does not match your needs, it's time to move on**

### Product portfolio
Is your bank providing the services you need? Or rather those that you don't. If your bank's product portfolio does not match your needs, it's time to switch. Your bank could also be offering services you don't need or want but are being charged for regardless. This is just draining your finances instead of helping them.

### High charges
For many private bank customers, the high charges are a trade-off between costly but efficient service and cheap but poor delivery. How much can you give up one for the other? Are there options in the market that give you a decent mix of both?

### Higher interest rates
Banks try to lure customers with offers of a higher rate than the usual four per cent offered by most banks. Is this a good enough reason for you to change your bank? Not really. If your average balance during the year is Rs 40,000, then you will gain about Rs 50 more per month if you shift to an account that offers 5.5 per cent interest. Unless you have a huge sum (Rs 1 lakh and above) idling in your account, it will not make a significant difference.

### Financial strength
It may be a good idea to shift your account to a bank that has a strong balance sheet and is not likely to shut shop. PSU banks are any day a safer bet than a private bank, but even established private banks are as solid as rock. It's only obscure names that are on the negative list. Even though when a bank fails, the RBI steps into the rescue of customers, customers themselves can track several warning signs that show that their bank is in trouble.

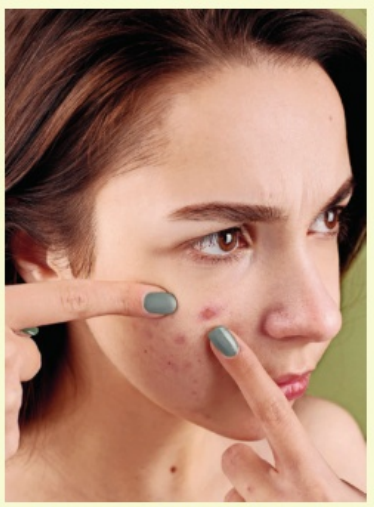
**MIRRORLIGHTS**

## How consuming sugar can affect your skin

Sugar has zero protein or fibre-related benefits and is loaded with calories and carbs, that you can get from healthier foods too. So, besides making foods and drinks sweet (and damaging your health), there's not much that sugar does. They say everything is good in proportion but the problem with sugar is that it is very, very easy to cross the line. We've all done it. But constant or excess consumption of sugar can take a toll on the skin.

Many dermatologists recommend cutting down on sugar. Sugar consumption increases inflammation in the body plus results in the body producing more sebum. More sebum unequivocally means more acne.

Sugar has a high glycemic index. Foods like that contribute to ageing as they stimulate glycation which is a process wherein sugar enters our bloodstream and gets attached to collagen and elastin – two things that help with cell turnover and renewal.



Sugar consumption is also directly proportional to insulin levels. Higher the sugar intake, the bigger the spike in your insulin levels. A high insulin level causes inflammation in the body which can trigger eczema and rosacea.

Therefore, it is best to substitute sugar with other alternatives.

– Ria Bhatia

## A skincare hack as cool as a cucumber

Social media influencers are going gaga over a new, yet old, skincare hack: frozen cucumbers. The trend refers to freezing cucumber pieces and using them on the skin to avail the benefits of skin icing and the hydrating and soothing effects of cucumbers. Through this trend, frozen cucumbers are being pushed as a 'naturally soothing' replacement for gua shas and jade rollers. When you think of it, what are the prime uses of such tools? Massaging, de-puffing and de-stressing the skin. Well, frozen cucumber can do it all and more. The trend instructs you to rub a piece of frozen cucumber on your face in the way you would run those tools. Here are some benefits:

Cucumbers are packed with up to 96 per cent water, meaning they are loaded with water and endow the skin with a punch of hydration. Besides this, they are packed with vitamin B, C and K that help brighten, hydrate and soothe the skin plus take care of the darkness under the eyes. Since cucumbers are mostly water, cold cucumbers soothe and calm inflamed, red or irritated skin by soothing all of it with anti-inflammatory properties. Cucumber, especially frozen cucumber, also helps to tighten and minimise pores and shrink their appearance noticeably.

Cut cucumber and place a piece in a plastic bag and freeze it. Once frozen, rub one end of the sliced cucumber (the end that exposes the inner bit) on your skin and give your skin a nice and instant facial by promoting lymphatic drainage and cooling the skin. Don't leave a piece of cucumber unwrapped in plastic in the freezer since it may accumulate germs and bacteria. While some people reuse the piece a couple of times, it's best not to do so since you wanna steer clear from infections and breakouts.

– Ria Bhatia

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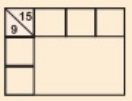
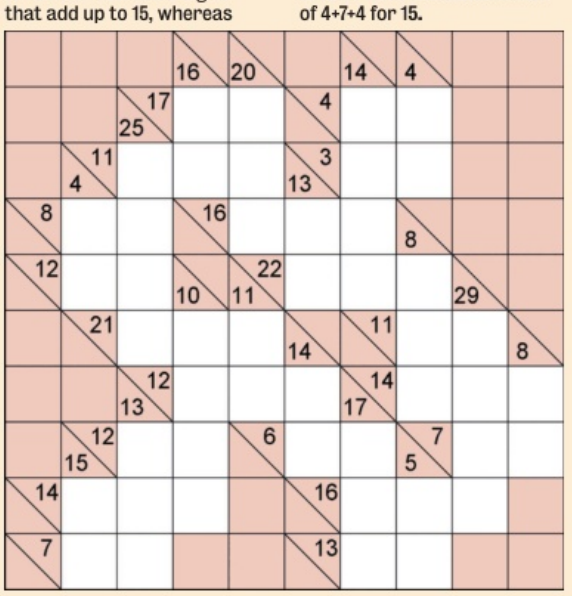
## Kakuro

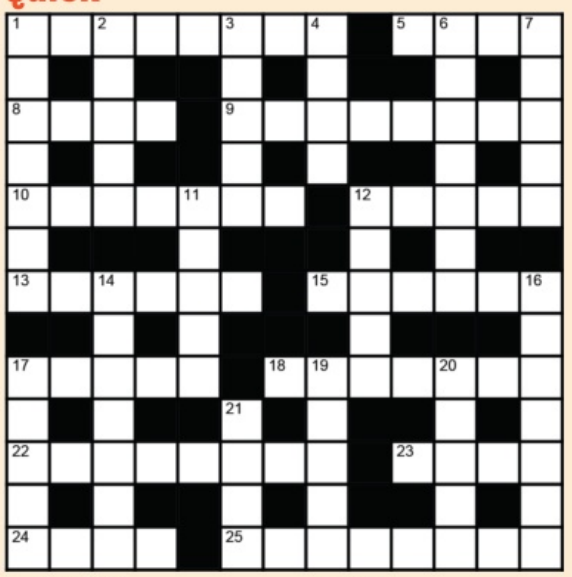
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



## Quick



**ACROSS**

1 Storyteller (8)
5 Distinctive doctrines (4)
8 Of like kind (4)
9 50 kms from Bangalore, this area is a favourite for rock climbers (8)
10 Enable or authorize (7)
12 Unnatural (5)
13 Dad or mom's mom (6)
15 Mythical monster (6)
17 Santa ___ : Father Christmas? (5)
18 Smell a rat (7)
22 Capital of Meghalaya (8)
23 Active volcano (4)
24 Settle down (4)
25 Renounce throne (8)

**DOWN**

1 Reserve funds (4,3)
2 Sum up (5)
3 Concise (5)
4 Hoar-frost (4)
6 Recent recruit for a football club (7)
7 Valuable violin (5)
11 Coils, curls or curves (5)
12 Had ___ : quarrelled? (5)
14 Fine race horse (7)
16 Tear tin anagram for a fertiliser (7)
17 Lawsuits (5)
19 Advised strongly (5)
20 Additional (5)
21 Indian unit of weight (4)

## Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**Today's CLUE: S EQUALS G**

FJX YVJ'W MWVL MVO QXUL ZFJS RJ MAYC VJ RJWXUXM-WRJS HFUZO, YVJ FJX?

## Linemaro

What was that sound? It was the sound of my heart breaking

## Mindchow

In the practice of tolerance, one's enemy is the best teacher

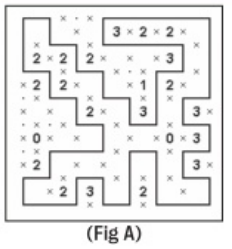
## Joke of the day

The truth is out there. Anybody got the URL?

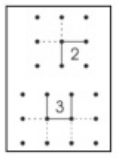
## Loop

### Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

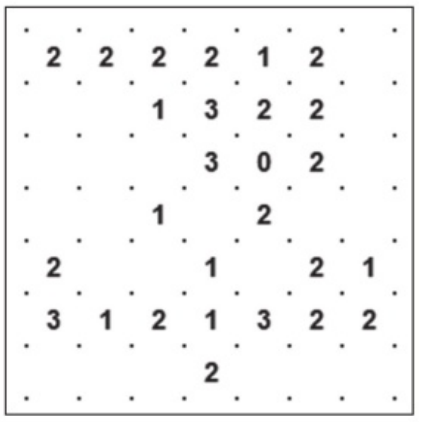


(Fig B) Not Allowed

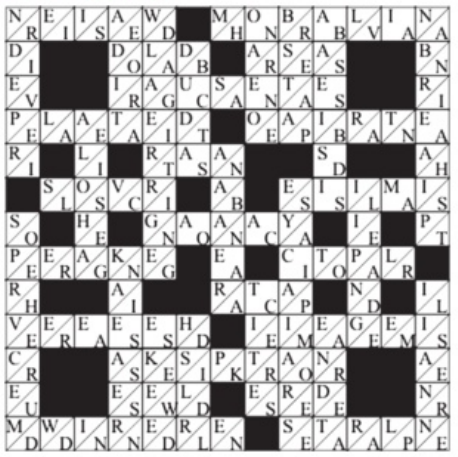
### How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



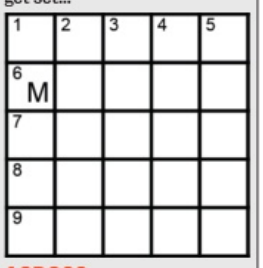
## Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

## Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...




**ACROSS**

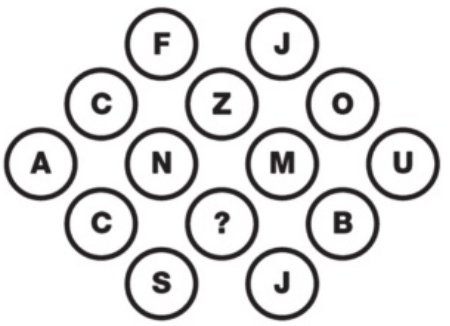
1 Copes; 6 Molar;
7 Eery l; 8 In gap;
9 Yurts

**DOWN**

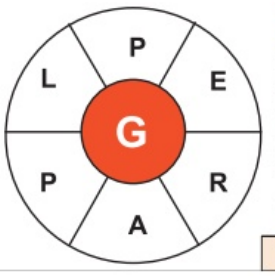
1 Reams; 2 Coy up;
3 Or sir; 4 Inapt;
5 Ley eg.

## Mensapuzzle

Which letter replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?




## Bull's eye




How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

09 Average; 10 Good; 12 Outstanding

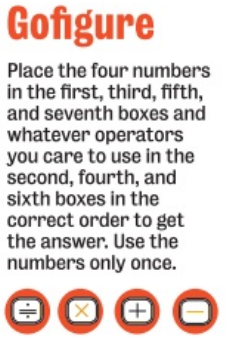
## SudokuChallenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | | 9 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | 8 |
| | | 1 | 5 | | | | | 9 |
| | | | | | | 6 | 5 | |
| 2 | | | | 5 | | | | |
| | | 7 | 4 | | 2 | 8 | | |
| | | | | 1 | | | | 6 |
| | 2 | 8 | | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | 1 | 4 | | |
| 3 | | | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | 2 |

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

## Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy = 4

1 2 5 8

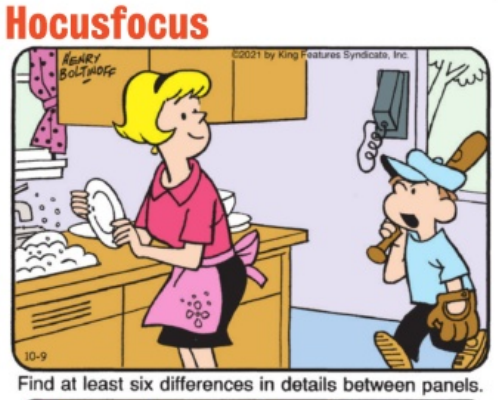
Medium = 29

1 4 7 9

Hard = 3

2 7 8 3

## Hocusfocus




Find at least six differences in details between panels.

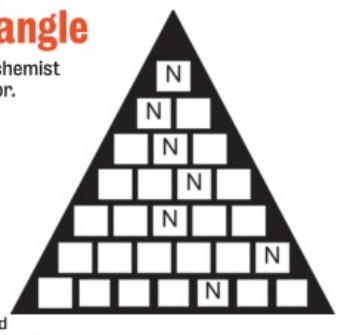
**Differences:** 1. Phone is moved. 2. Faucet is missing. 3. Glove is different. 4. Stripe is added to sleeve. 5. Leg is moved. 6. Cabinet is wider.

## Riddler

Can you figure out this brainbat? NHAPPY

## Alpha triangle

1 Nitrogen for the chemist
2 Not available, abbr.
3 Picnic pest
4 Canned fish
5 Female relatives
6 The ringed planet
7 School absentees




Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

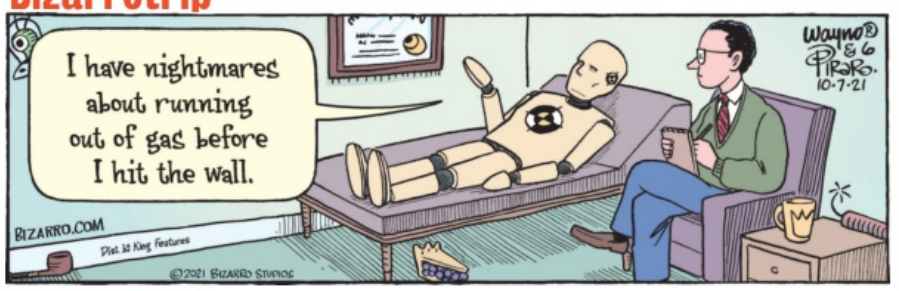

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

# COMICS

## Redeye by Mel Casson

I FINALLY FIGURED OUT WHY YOU DON'T LIKE ME!
YOU THINK I'M AFRAID TO SPEAK UP TO A LITTLE RUNT LIKE YOU!
9-27
ON SECOND THOUGHT... IT MAY BE THAT MY MOUTHWASH ISN'T WORKING

## Bizarrotrip


I have nightmares about running out of gas before I hit the wall.
Wayno & Piraro 10-7-21
BIZARRO.COM
Dist. by King Features
©2021 BIZARRO STUDIOS

## Diamond Lil

I ATE DINNER AT THAT NEW PLACE YESTERDAY
IT'S CALLED BAMBI'S BARBECUE SHACK
WHAT DID YOU HAVE?
THE BABY BUCK RIBS
©2021 creators.com 10/7
www.creators.com

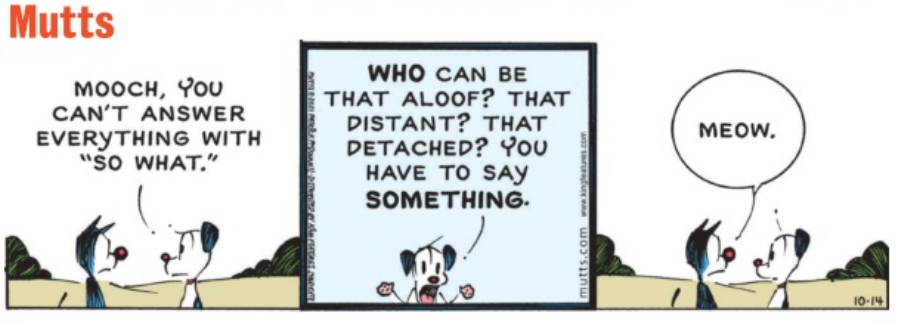
## Hart of the city

I CAN'T DO DED FOR A BIT. I'M TAKING A 6-WEEK FENCING CLASS!
IS THIS ANOTHER CHORE YOUR MOM IS FORCING YOU TO DO, LIKE VIOLIN?
NO WAY! I LIKE FENCING! IT'S LIKE FANCY SWORD FIGHTING.
IT'S BETTER TO STAB YOUR ENEMIES RATHER THAN SERENADE THEM WITH MOZART. THESE ARE LIFE SKILLS!
HART OF THE CITY © 2021 ANDREWS MCMEEL
©COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

## Crankshaft

'My conversation with the head of Mordor Financial didn't go well.'
SO WHAT IS IT YOU WANT!? A RAISE?
NO... ALTHOUGH THAT WOULD BE NICE.
BUT WHAT I WANT IS FOR YOU TO INVEST IN THE CENTERVILLE SENTINEL'S COVERAGE OF THE COMMUNITY.
© 2021 Hedgehog, Inc. Dist. by North America Syndicate
BATUK & DAVIS
10-4

## Mutts


MOOCH, YOU CAN'T ANSWER EVERYTHING WITH "SO WHAT."
WHO CAN BE THAT ALOOF? THAT DISTANT? THAT DETACHED? YOU HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING.
MEOW.
mutts.com
10-14

# WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

**Aries** Mar 21 – Apr 20

Today you may feel a bit dull and you might lose focus on your goals. You may make some hypothetical decision, which might be far from reality. Your expectation may be very high and because of impatience you are not able to fulfill it, which might then make you upset. You are advised to be careful while on some adventure trip and while driving. But by afternoon, you may see some profits and you are likely to start working with some new clients, which will increase business in the near future.

**Taurus** Apr 21 – May 20

You are likely to control your internal weaknesses after analysing yourself so you may be confident today. You may also fight against addictions of any kind. Singles are likely to find a good match. Love birds too will have clarity in their relationship. You may expect an opportunity to travel overseas. Students will hear good news in terms of academics.

**Gemini** May 21 – Jun 21

Today, situations are under your control, so you may feel better. You may plan for an overseas trip. Your network may help you on the work front. There is some increase in domestic harmony. You may be more creative and you may bring some artifacts or creative items for family or office. You may also plan to watch movies or some other activity with friends or family.

**Cancer** Jun 22 – July 23

At the start of the week, you will expect financial gains. You will strike a balance between your earnings and expenses, which will boost your bank balance. You are likely to perform better at your job. Your boss will give you new responsibilities in terms of promotions. You will get your money back from those who you have lent it to. You will be able to gain control over your opponents and hidden enemies. Health would be better now.

**Leo** Jul 24 – Aug 23

Today, you may plan to renovate your house. You may buy some items to decorate your house in keeping with your social status. There is likely to be harmony with the spouse so family life is likely to be smooth today. Disputes with friends, co-workers and partners may also be settled. You may get good news in terms of litigation.

**Virgo** Aug 24 – Sep 23

You are likely to feel energetic today. Your old ailments may be cured now. You may hear some good news from your close relatives. You may perform well in the office, and your subordinates may help you with a difficult project. You may develop trust in your subordinate staff. It may increase your prestige in society. You may also hear good news in some legal matters.

**Libra** Sep 24 – Oct 22

Today you may feel that life is becoming difficult. You are likely to take some advice from your elders to sustain in the given situation. You need to keep patience. Kids' education matters may upset you. You may have to go on a short trip for your kids' studies. Investors are advised to avoid speculation before making any investments. You may plan to enroll in a course that will enhance your skills.

**Scorpio** Oct 23 – Nov 22

Today is not a positive day and may leave you disappointed. Your focus towards your work may not be good. It affects your routine. Your projects may be delayed. It is advised to bear with the current situation. Investments in the fixed assets may be postponed for a while. You are advised to postpone a plan to construct a house or an office.

**Sagittarius** Nov 23 – Dec 22

Today, disputes with the siblings are likely to be resolved which may make your relationship stronger. Your vitality seems to be good, so it may help you to complete a difficult project easily. You may expand your network after a work-related trip. You may also help some needy person which may raise your prestige. You may meet some influential person, who will be helpful in the near future on the professional front.

**Capricorn** Dec 23 – Jan 20

Today you may be busy with your family. You may find happiness with family or friends. You may expect some new sources of income, which may boost your financial health. You may have control over your expenditures on worthless items. You may buy some essential things, which may increase your social status. You may also be busy with your kids' academics.

**Aquarius** Jan 21 – Feb 19

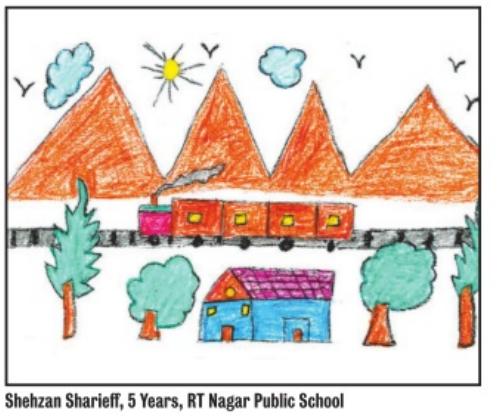
Today you may feel energetic, so you will work fast. You may complete your task within the time frame, which makes you happy. You may also encourage someone who is depressed. Your prestige may be increased now. There may be some balance between domestic and professional life. Those in work related to import and export, trading, strategy analyst may do better now.

**Pisces** Feb 20 – Mar 20

Today some dissatisfaction may come into your mind that may make you feel lazy and dull. This affects your current speed of the project and might cause delay. Love birds are advised to avoid any important decision in terms of marriage. Job seekers may get disappointing news in terms of interviews. You might end up wasting time in worthless pursuits.

## KIDZONE

Siri Ashok, 5 Years, Sri Aurobindo Memorial School



Shehzan Sharieff, 5 Years, RT Nagar Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

# SOLUTIONS

**SOLVE IN 1M**

8(24÷24)(8*20+8×(8)^2
64^2+0 = 64+2 = 128

**BULL'S EYE**

gale, gape, gear, glare, grape, GRAPPLE, lager, large, page, pager, rage, regal

**QUOTE UNCODE**

One can't stay sad very long in such an interesting world, can one?

**FAST FIVE**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | C | O | P | E |
| M | O | R | A | L |
| E | Y | R | I | E |
| A | P | I | N | G |
| R | U | S | T | Y |

**STRIKE OUT**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | E | S | E | W | M | O | R | A | V | I | A | | | |
| I | | D | A | B | | R | E | S | | B | | | | |
| V | | I | G | U | A | N | A | S | | R | | | | |
| E | L | A | T | E | D | | O | P | I | A | T | E | | |
| R | | L | | R | S | A | | | S | | | A | | |
| L | O | C | I | | B | | S | I | L | A | S | | | |
| S | H | | N | A | N | C | Y | | I | | T | | | |
| P | R | A | N | G | | E | | C | O | A | L | | | |
| H | | | I | | R | C | A | | N | | I | | | |
| E | R | A | S | E | D | | I | M | A | G | E | S | | |
| R | | S | K | I | P | T | O | N | | E | | | | |
| E | | S | H | I | L | L | O | N | G | | E | T | N | A |
| D | W | I | N | D | L | E | | E | T | A | P | E | | |

**QUICK**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | I | N | K | | A | B | O | I | C | A | T | E | | |
| H | | I | L | L | O | N | G | | E | T | N | A | | |
| A | B | | T | | R | | | X | | | R | | | |
| C | L | A | U | S | | S | U | S | P | E | C | T | | |
| G | R | A | N | N | Y | | O | R | A | G | O | N | | |
| E | M | P | O | W | E | R | | W | E | I | R | D | | |
| T | | A | | S | | E | | N | | A | | | | |
| S | U | C | H | | R | A | M | N | A | G | A | R | | |
| E | | E | | I | | I | | | | T | | | | |
| N | A | R | R | A | T | O | R | | I | S | M | S | | |

**MENSA PUZZLE**

A. Start on the centre left of the diagram, and move in a clockwise spiral towards the centre. Letters advance through the alphabet in steps of 2, 3, 4, etc.

**RIDDLER**

Unhappy without you

**SUDOKU**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 2 |
| 7 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 5 |
| 1 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 7 |
| 9 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 |
| 6 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 1 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 4 |
| 4 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 3 |
| 8 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 9 |
| 5 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 8 |

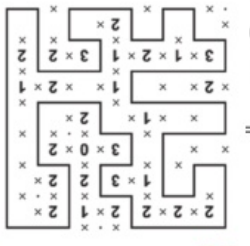
**ALPHA TRIANGLE**

N, NA, Ant, Tuna, Aunts, Saturn, Truants.

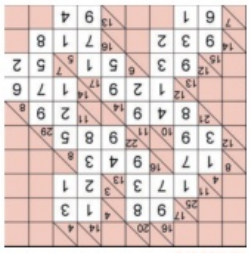
**GO FIGURE**

Easy
2 + 8 – 5 – 1 = 4
Medium
4 x 9 x 1 – 7 = 29
Hard
7 + 8 / 3 – 2 = 3

**LOOP**



**KAKURO**



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## RRR made Alia feel excited and nervous

Actor Alia Bhatt on Thursday said she was both nervous and excited about working on SS Rajamouli's magnum opus "RRR" but she owes it to the filmmaker for making stint on the film smooth.

The Telugu-language film is a fictional tale of two Indian freedom fighters from the early 20th century - Alluri Sitarama Raju, played by Ram Charan, and Kumaram Bheem, essayed by Jr NTR.

Bhatt, who features in the period actioner as Sita, said she was nervous to play the Telugu part in the film. "I was very excited and nervous when I was offered the role of Sita. I was more nervous because of the language, I had to learn the lines by heart, I wanted to make sure I said those lines well and took proper pauses and more. "But once I was on set, Rajamouli sir had kept everything ready and made it very smooth for me. By the end of it, I was sad that it is over, but hopefully there will be more films with him in the future," the actor told reporters.

Bhatt was speaking at the film's trailer launch event.

"Rise Roar Revolt" or "RRR", which is set to release on January 7, 2022, was earlier slated to clash with Bhatt's another movie, "Gangubai Kathiawadi", directed by Sanjay Leela Bhansali. But the clash was averted as the release date of "Gangubai Kathiawadi" was moved to February 18, 2022.

When asked if she was tense when both her films were supposed to clash, Bhatt said that never happened. "I am somebody who trusts their directors and producers, that's the reason they are who they are. SS Rajamouli and Sanjay Leela Bhansali are who they are because of their minds and their understanding of cinema. "So there was nothing for me to worry about," Bhatt said.

## The hottest buzz

### Aryan Khan most searched on Google; Raj Kundra, Shenaz Gill, Vicky Kaushal among other B-Town folk who made it to top list

Search engine Google launched its list of the top searched people of the year. With all the controversies and drama surrounding B-Town stars, it came as no surprise that many celebrities took the top spots.

From celebrities to sports personalities to entrepreneurs and business magnates, many names were Googled all year round, one among these was Shah Rukh Khan and Gauri Khan's eldest son Aryan Khan. The hunk came in second on the list of top searches of 2021 in India.

**Don't we just love controversy? Our internet searches show we also dig success, especially of our stars, and are too curious about grief**

The star kid who even faced jail time for his alleged involvement in a drugs case came in second on the list after Olympic gold medalist, Neeraj Chopra. Khan along with Arbaaz Merchant and Munmun Dhamecha were arrested on October 3 and were granted bail by the Bombay HC on October 28. The investigation in the case is still underway.

Meanwhile, actress Shehnaaz Gill, who lost her partner Sidharth Shukla, bagged the third position on the list. Sidharth passed away after suffering a massive cardiac attack at the age of 40.

Another shocker that rocked B-town was the pornography case involving Shilpa Shetty Kundra's husband Raj Kundra. Going by the numbers, he came in fourth on Google's list, thanks to the frenzy surrounding the case.

Coming in fifth was entrepreneur and business magnate Elon Musk. Man of the hour- Vicky Kaushal, whose wedding to Katrina Kaif has been the talk of the town, also topped the list and came in at the sixth spot.

While the seventh, eighth and ninth positions were grabbed by athletes PV Sindhu, Bajrang Punia and Sushil Kumar for their performances at the Tokyo Olympics, Bollywood star Varun Dhawan's wife Natasha Dalal ranked 10th.

Meanwhile, on micro-blogging site Twitter, actor Sonu Sood was the most talked-about star, thanks to his efforts to help people during the coronavirus pandemic.

He was followed by superstars Akshay Kumar, Salman Khan and Shah Rukh Khan. While Kumar had two films released in theatres this year with 'Bell Bottom' and 'Sooryavanshi', Salman had 'Radhe' and 'Antim' that kept fans buzzing. Shah Rukh, on the other hand, topped searches for his film 'Pathan' and the controversy around the arrest of his son by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). **— ETimes**

## Jai Bhim is on top of the charts

### IMDb list shows Suriya's film is most popular movie of the year

South star Suriya's "Jai Bhim" and Sidharth Malhotra-starrer "Shershaah" have topped the list of Indian films and web series of 2021 announced by IMDb.

IMDb, the world's most popular source for information on movies, TV shows, and celebrities, on Thursday unveiled the top ten movies and TV shows in India that were most popular with IMDb users this year, a press release stated.

Tamil language legal drama "Jai Bhim", written and directed Tj Gnanavel, is based on true events and revolves around the unfair treatment and discrimination of

people from the Irular tribe.

The movie which premiered on Amazon Prime Video last month garnered positive response from audience and critics.

The film which ranked second on the IMDb list is Bollywood movie "Shershaah", based on the life of Kargil hero Captain Vikram Batra, played by Malhotra.

## A new journey with only love and gratitude

### We have it from the bride: The biggest wedding of B-Town did take place

Star couple Katrina Kaif and Vicky Kaushal on Thursday began a "new journey together" as they tied the knot at a luxury hotel in Sawai Madhopur in the presence of family and close friends. Hours after the wedding, the couple posted a series of pictures from their special day on Instagram, where they are seen holding hands while taking pheras and exchanging wedding garlands.

"Only love and gratitude in our hearts for everything that brought us to this moment. Seeking all your love and blessings as we begin this new journey together," the duo captioned the pictures on their respective Instagram accounts. The wedding was largely a lavish and private affair with heavily guarded wedding venue making it difficult for the media to report much to the fans.

The only clue from the high-end Six Senses Fort Barwara, a fort converted into a hotel from which the media and lookers-on were kept at a safe distance, were three grainy pictures of the couple and a short video. As journalists tasked with covering the wedding and fans alike scoured social media platforms, the pictures leaked online showed the bride in a red lehnga and a groom in an ivory sherwani wearing garlands.

The other pictures that leaked from the wedding showed guests hanging out in the balcony of the heritage property, about 120kms from Jaipur. Kaif, 38, and Kaushal, 33, have been dating for more than a year. While the guest list for the wedding have been closely guarded, close friends and colleagues of the couple are among those attending the wedding. **—Agencies**